

Today's Topics:

airport security (2 msgs)
 airport security, another anecdote
 callsign servers
 Getting mods from manufacturer
 Product Review: HMC-2 VOX HEADSET
 SuperDF

 Date: 14 Nov 89 01:25:01 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!usc!polyslo!gjunell@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Gregorio Cortez)

Subject: airport security

I've taken my handheld scanner through X-Ray (Uniden BC-100XLT) and have never been questioned. I was questioned about a Laerdal Portable Suction unit that I had, and was asked to show it (it's a medical suction unit I was taking for repairs, as I work for an ambulance company). At Sacramento Airport, I was also asked to place my pager (Motorola Bravo, little display pager) on the belt to be X-rayed. This thing is tiny, and I can't imagine anyone fitting a bomb into it (I can barely understand how Motorola gets a 900MHz receiver, LCD display, speaker, and vibrator in it! ;-).

Since I'm here, I'll post on my earlier message too... Regarding Missouri Radio Center, I received 3 email replies. One requested a followup, one requested the address, and another said that they had bought a Kenwood mobile from them and had good results. It looks like I'll be giving them a try for the Icom IC-U16 land-mobile handheld. I'm going to call Icom tomorrow and try to get a service manual for this radio. I'm hoping that they sell service manuals for their commerical stuff (and not just to commerical techs licensed by the FCC).

-Kirk (using gjunell's account)

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 Date: 14 Nov 89 01:41:05 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu

Subject: airport security

> real problem; even though ICAO member countries are required to provide hand
> inspection on request, I've had problems. In Montreal they made me take a

> I wonder if there's any place one can obtain some sort of official-looking
> document that describes the ICAO rule about hand-searching in as many
> languages as possible.

Is there a list of the countries, too?

--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--
<phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

Date: Mon, 13 Nov 89 18:05:36 -0800
From: Doug Faunt N6TQS 415-688-8269 <faunt@cisco.com>
Subject: airport security, another anecdote

I once bought a degaussing coil in Washington DC, for use on a stopover in St. Louis, and had to give them my business card, and show them the instructions for use that had come with the unit in order to get it on the aircraft. They wanted to unwind the tape on the thing. Apparently it looked really weird on their display.

Date: 14 Nov 89 05:27:36 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!sunybcslbowen@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Devon Bowen)
Subject: callsign servers

In article <23933@cup.portal.com>, Allyn_Mark_Lai@cup.portal.com writes:
> Is there a call sign server out there that accepts mail requests?
> I have been using the marvin server but I just lost access to TELNET
> so it is unavailable to me now.

This is on the list of "neat new hacks" for marvin and it's one of the first on my list. I just haven't had time. I'm hoping to get to it over the Thanksgiving holiday (my girlfriend is taking a vacation then 8-)

Watch here for more info...

Devon

Date: 14 Nov 89 01:41:13 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu

Subject: Getting mods from manufacturer

The current policy of the radio manufacturers is to NOT give out mods info except to those with a MARS license. I would like to know why I need to have a MARS license to:

1. Expand my UHF radio to operate in 420-440 Mhz.
2. Expand a VHF or UHF radio for wide band operation so that I can drive a transverter and get full band coverage on a microwave band.

They cite two things to me when I ask for the info:

1. It is against FCC rules to sell radios that can transmit outside of ham bands.
2. The radios might be used on public service bands which is illegal since they are not type-accepted for it.

Number 1 is totally bogus. They could not cite FCC rules or any law, and said that someone from the FCC simply told them so, and could not name either the person or the office.

Number 2 applies just as much to someone with a MARS license since a MARS licensee cannot operate on public service bands (with a non-type-accepted radio) any more than other licensed hams can.

My point is that licensed hams DO HAVE LEGITIMATE needs and uses for modifying radios to transmit on frequencies other than what they are marketed for. This includes both expansion of full band coverage where the foreign radio makers failed to know and understand the American radio system and rules, as well as use in driving transverters.

To one manufacturer, when they told me that the mods would open up public service bands, I described how they could make their NEXT radio model so that it would NOT. The diode selectable bands are coded into the uCPU ROM memory, which simply can have things like 420-430 added, and make 430-440 NOT mutually exclusive with 440-450. Their response to my suggestion is that the radios are designed in Japan and they have no control over such things.

BALONEY AGAIN...

Maybe it is the case that NO ONE at the American offices communicates to people in Japan about design issues. Surely they must have at one time or we would not have even seen any 220 Mhz radios. But I do know that

radios are coming out of Japan with incorrect or silly designs. For instance, 23cm radios have channeling in 10 khz increments instead of the 25 khz standard the ARRL has established in the USA. They CAN MAKE them with 25 khz because the European versions do it (time for yet another diode surgery session).

What the manufacturers could do is this: when someone wants the info for the mods, they write a letter to the manufacturer with the appropriate documentation of what they need the mod for, and include a signed statement that they understand the potential illegal uses of the radio and will not be using it for such purposes. I see no reason why the manufacturers have to discriminate between different legitimate uses.

--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--
<phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

Date: 14 Nov 89 05:11:59 GMT
From: unsvox!arrakis.nevada.edu!storkus@uunet.uu.net (Mike Storke)
Subject: Product Review: HMC-2 VOX HEADSET

The following mail bounced, but I figured someone on the new may be able to benefit from it as well, or post a good reply. 73's, Mike, N7MSD

Date: Mon, 13 Nov 89 20:18:52 PST
From: Mike Storke <storkus@arrakis.nevada.edu>
Message-Id: <8911140418.AA18953@arrakis.nevada.edu>
To: ultb!cep4478
Subject: Re: Product Review: HMC-2 VOX HEADSET
Newsgroups: rec.ham-radio
In-Reply-To: <1568@ultb.UUCP>
Organization: Univ of Nevada System Computing Services - Las Vegas
Cc:

I was wondering how much it cost you and if it would work with my radio. I have a Santec ST-20T, and the pinout looks like this:

Plug 1 (Microphone): 3/32", combines PTT and audio lines (audio thru a cap).
Plug 2 (Speaker): 1/8" (That may be inaccurate, but it's the next size up),
direct connection.

Both plugs are 2 leads only. I THINK it delivers its own power (I operate it off my PK-88 all the time). Could you let me know what you think? 73's,

--
Mike P. Storke, N7MSD @ University Nevada/Las Vegas-only a student, sorry :-)

Inet: storkus@arrakis.nevada.edu Packet: KF7TI @ LAS:K7WS-1 or ANGEL:K7WS-2
Snailmail: Box 462 Las Vegas, NV 89119 Sorry, what I say comes from my fingers.
"Pascal: The Handcuff of the Programmer"-ME! I WANT MY C!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Mike P. Storke, N7MSD @ University Nevada/Las Vegas-only a student, sorry :-)
Inet: storkus@arrakis.nevada.edu Packet: KF7TI @ LAS:K7WS-1 or ANGEL:K7WS-2
Snailmail: Box 462 Las Vegas, NV 89119 Sorry, what I say comes from my fingers.
"Pascal: The Handcuff of the Programmer"-ME! I WANT MY C!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Date: 14 Nov 89 01:57:17 GMT
From: asuvax!anasaz!john@handies.ucar.edu (John Moore)
Subject: SuperDF

I have had a few email requests regarding how well the SuperDF worked out...

Well... I finished building the SuperDF kit Saturday in time to take it out for the evening transmitter hunt. Although we did most of our DF'ing with the doppler, the few times that the SuperDF was needed, it worked extremely well. We got snookered by a reflection, resulting in us being on the wrong side of a freeway, about 250 yards from the "T". We got out of the vehicle and fired up the SuperDF, and followed its bearings in a perfect straight line (taking bearings as we went) to the edge of the freeway. Across the freeway we could see a restaurant directly in line with the bearings.

Climbed back into the truck and drove to the restaurant. The doppler said the T was hidden in a thick hedge near the street corner by the restaurant. However, a quick on-foot survey didn't yield anything (it was a VERY thick hedge). Pulling out the (by now) trusty SuperDF, took a bearing next to the sidewalk that said the "T" was on a line parallel to the sidewalk about 4 feet in. Walked down the sidewalk until it said the signal was from straight into the hedge (about 20 feet from first bearing point). Sure enough, 4 feet into the hedge was an antenna and two well hidden operators.

The unit is as sensitive as the radio attached to it. It gives a very sharp indication of the bearing - you could probably read that indication to within a fraction of a degree (although other anisotropies would probably prevent the bearing from actually be that accurate).

The kit was of medium difficulty. The documentation is excellent, but the mechanical construction was a bit tricky (at least for one with 10 thumbs). The device quality is quite good, although I had to troubleshoot it because one 51K resistor turned out to measure at 900 ohms. However, the troubleshooting flow

chart pointed out exactly where the problem was.

To forestall EMAIL queries, I'll give out the address here
for queries. The unit can be purchased from

BMG Engineering
9935 Garibaldi Ave
Temple City, CA 91780
818-285-6963 (after 5PM, weekends, or 0600-0700 PST)

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John Moore (NJ7E) mcdphx!anasaz!john asuvax!anasaz!john
(602) 861-7607 (day or eve) long palladium, short petroleum
7525 Clearwater Pkwy, Scottsdale, AZ 85253
The 2nd amendment is about military weapons, NOT JUST hunting weapons!

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #876
